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COUNSEL FOR TRUSTEE

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AMARILLO DIVISION

IN RE:	§	
	§	
RICHARD K. ARCHER and	§	CASE NO. 17-20045-RLJ-7
RUTH E. ARCHER,	§	
	§	
Debtors.	§	

SIXTH MOTION TO OPERATE BUSINESSES AND CONTINUE COMMERCIAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

TO THE HONORABLE ROBERT L. JONES, BANKRUPTCY JUDGE:

COMES NOW, Kent Ries, Trustee of the referenced Chapter 7 bankruptcy estate, and files this Sixth Motion to Operate Businesses and Continue Commercial Property Management Agreement, and in support thereof would respectfully show unto the Court as follows:

- 1. An Order for relief under Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code was entered on February 24, 2017. Kent Ries was subsequently appointed and qualified to serve as the Trustee over the bankruptcy estate.
- 2. The Debtors operated two retail shopping centers located in the 2500 block of Paramount Blvd. and at 6010 S.W. 34th Avenue in Amarillo, Texas (the "Shopping Centers"). Ostensibly these Shopping Centers were owned and operated by the Debtors' profit sharing plan. However, pursuant to and Order signed by this Court on July 12, 2018, that retirement plan was

disqualified under the Internal Revenue Code and the assets of the plan were determined to be nonexempt property of this bankruptcy estate.

- 3. The Trustee previously requested authorization to operate the Shopping Centers under Section 721 of the Bankruptcy Code until December 31, 2021, which was approved by an Order of this Court entered on January 26, 2021. The shopping center on Paramount was sold pursuant to an Order of this Court entered June 20, 2019. That sale was closed on July 3, 2019. The Trustee wishes to extend the authorization to operate the 34th Avenue shopping center ("34th Avenue") until September 30, 2022. If no sale has occurred by September 30, 2022, the Trustee will file another motion updating the Court on the status of the 34th Avenue property and request appropriate action based on that update (e.g. extension of time to sell, or an auction to sell). The Trustee expects that the operation of the 34th Avenue property will continue to be a profitable business for the bankruptcy estate. The Shopping Centers have been accounted for via a separate bank account maintained by the Trustee. The balance in that account as of December 23, 2021 is \$78,330.01, which represents the net profit generated by the Shopping Centers to date.
- 4. The Trustee has maintained liability and property damage insurance on the Shopping Centers, effective as of July 31, 2018. The major expenses of the Shopping Centers has been the payment of 2017 through 2021 property taxes. Additionally the insurance coverage required some basic repairs to the Paramount property, primarily to its parking lot. Finally, several tenant's air conditioner units have had to be replaced.
- 5. Pursuant to a prior Order, the Trustee contracted with Gaut Whittenburg Emerson CRE ("Gaut") to handle day-to-day operations of the business (pending sale of the Shopping Centers). Gaut charges the estate six percent (6%) of the gross monthly rentals generated by the Shopping Centers for their management services. In addition to their management fee, Gaut

receives six percent (6%) of any new leases entered into by the Shopping Centers and three

percent (3%) of the value of any renewed lease of current tenants of the Shopping Centers. The

Trustee wishes to continue the agreement with Gaut on the same terms as previously approved.

6. The continued operation of Debtor's business would be in the best interest of the

Estate and consistent with the orderly liquidation of the Estate. If the 34th Avenue property was

shut down and the tenant leases terminated, the value of the 34th Avenue property would likely

decrease significantly.

7. The Gaut firm sold the Paramount property and is marketing the sale of the 34th

Avenue property on behalf of the Trustee. Several offers have been received by the Trustee on

the 34th Avenue property. The offers have been increasing over time as Gaut has stabilized the

tenants in the property and now have trustworthy accounting records on the property that did not

previously exist. The 34th Avenue property has title issues that preclude a sale at this time.

Those title issues should be resolved in 2022.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Trustee prays that he be authorized to

operate the debtor's business and continue the Commercial Property Management Agreement,

and such other relief to which Trustee may show himself justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

KENT RIES

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By:/s/ Kent Ries

Kent Ries

State Bar No. 16914050

COUNSEL FOR TRUSTEE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Kent Ries, certify that on the 23rd day of December, 2021, a true and correct copy of the foregoing Motion was sent either electronically or mailed in the United States mail, postage prepaid, to the parties listed on the attached mailing matrix:

/s/ Kent Ries

Kent Ries

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